England - Parliament - H of L - Proceedings. II.

The Humble

ADDRESS

Of the Right Honourable the

Lords Spiritual and Temporal,

In Parliament Assembled,

PRESENTED TO

HIS MAJESTY

On *Monday* the Twenty ninth Day of *January*, 1727.

WITH

His Majesty's

MOST GRACIOUS

ANSWER.

LONDON,

Printed by *John Baskett*, Printer to the King's most Excellent Majesty; and by *Thomas Norris*, Assignee to *George Hills*. 1727.

Die Lunæ 29 Januarii, 1727.

ORdered by the Lords Spiritual and Temporal in Parliament Assembled, That the Address of this House, presented to His Majesty, and His Majesty's most Gracious Answer thereunto, be forthwith Printed and Published.

Wm Cowper,
Cler' Parliamentor'

The Humble ADDRESS of the Right Honourable the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, in Parliament assembled.

Die Sabbati, 27 Januarii, 1727.

Most Gracious Sovereign,

WE Your Majesty's most Dutiful and Loyal Subjects, the Lords Spiritual and Temporal in Parliament assembled, beg leave to return Your Majesty the humble Thanks of this House for Your most gracious Speech from the Throne, and to congratulate Your Majesty upon the great Hopes You have been pleased to communicate to us, of seeing the Publick Peace and Tranquillity very soon restored.

These, we must humbly acknowledge, are the happy Consequences of that Spirit and Resolution, with which Your Majesty has asserted Your Rights, as Sovereign of this Kingdom, tempered with a noble Self-denial of all the Success and Glory that might attend Your Majesty's Arms in the Prosecution of a just and necessary War, when put in Balance with the Ease, Quiet, and Prosperity of Your Subjects. It is a Disposition of Mind truly great in Your Majesty, a Prince so early initiated in the Art of War, and formed by Nature for the greatest military Atchievements, to choose rather to procure Peace for Your Subjects, than to lead them to Victories, and to adorn Your Reign with the sincere and grateful Acclamations of a happy People, rather than the Splendor of Triumphs.

Your Majesty's tender and indulgent Care for the Welfare of Your Kingdom has induced You to express so kind and affectionate a Concern for the late disagreeable Situation of Affairs, though occasioned by mere Necessity, which no human Prudence could have prevented; but whatever Inconveniences have happened, they fall light upon us, when we observe that Your Majesty, as a true Father of Your Country, feels every Uneasiness Your Subjects suffer: And as Your Majesty has justly rejected all Propositions that were detrimental and injurious to Your Honour, and the Interest of Your People, we cannot doubt but Your Majesty's Endeavours, in Conjunction with Your Allies, to put an End to the Troubles and Disorders of *Europe*, will soon have the desired Success.

The Nature of such Negotiations could not but carry them into that Length Your Majesty is graciously pleased to regret, and the Patience Your Majesty has had, solely from an earnest Desire to procure to Your Subjects a safe and honourable Peace, must, in Duty and Gratitude, animate the whole Nation with the most steady Zeal to exert itself in vindicating Your Majesty's Honour, and defending the Rights of Your Crown, if, contrary to Expectation, the Day should come, when the Safety of Your People shall require stronger Remedies than Negotiations; We shall most cheerfully in that Case, under God, depend upon Your Majesty's Valour and Conduct.

We therefore humbly concur in Opinion with Your Majesty, of the absolute Necessity of supporting Your Allies, and promoting the mutual Fidelity, which we, with the greatest Satisfaction, observe between Your Majesty and them, by continuing the Preparations that have brought us to so near a Prospect of Peace, that Your Majesty, however unwilling, may not be unable to defend by Force those Rights we are persuaded will be maintained by amicable Measures.

The gracious Aſſurances from Your Majeſty, of Your Deſire to reduce the publick Expence, and the full Conviction we have, that it will be managed with the utmoſt Care and Frugality, lay the greateſt Obligations upon us, to do all in our Power to ſupport the prudent and neceſſary Meaſures Your Majeſty ſo ſteadily perſeveres in, for the eſtabliſhing a ſolid and laſting Peace.

Your Majeſty's Condeſcention in acquainting Your Parliament, that the Preliminary Articles, and ſuch other Treaties and Conventions, which, without manifeſt Prejudice, may be expoſed to publick View, ſhall be laid before us, is anticipating all we could reaſonably ask of Your Majeſty in the preſent Conjuncture.

We have a freſh Inſtance of Your Majeſty's early Application to proſecute the real Intereſt and peculiar Advantage of this Kingdom, by Your being graciouſly pleaſed to recommend to us ſo important a Work, as that of the Increaſe and Encouragement of Our Seamen. The Weight which the Naval Force of *Great Britain* has ſo lately and viſibly had in aſſerting the Honour of Your Majeſty's Crown, and the Rights and Poſſeſſions of our Country, is too lively upon our Minds, for us not to enter with the greateſt Willingneſs on a Deliberation ſo uſeful and neceſſary, that they may be invited into the Service by Means more ſuitable to the known Humanity and Tenderneſs of the Prince they are to ſerve, and to thoſe Liberties they are to enjoy as well as defend, than the Methods, hitherto uſed, of Compulſion.

We cannot give better Proofs of our Duty to Your Majeſty, and Love of our Country, than by our Unanimity, Zeal, and Diſpatch of the publick Buſineſs; and we hope this Parliament will convince the World, that none of Your Subjects are ſo weary of their own Happineſs, as out of Envy or Malice to wiſh a publick Diſtreſs, or to foment Difficulties at home, in order to interrupt our preſent promiſing Expectations: We ſhould look on ſuch as Incendiaries, unworthy of the Name of *Britons*; they would be deteſted at home, and deſpiſed abroad, even by thoſe whoſe Cauſe they would ſerve. The juſt Indignation ſuch an unnatural Temper would raiſe in the Hearts of all Your faithful Subjects, would neceſſarily incite them to the greater Zeal for Your Majeſty's Service, and Support of Your Government, upon which our happy Proſpect of Peace and Proſperity does depend: And as we are deeply ſenſible of the Happineſs we enjoy under the beſt of Governments, adminiſtred by the beſt of Kings, we will ſhew that we know how to ſet a juſt Value on thoſe Bleſſings, by admitting no other Contention amongſt us, but who ſhall be moſt active and zealous in preſerving them, and in promoting the publick Felicity, by rendring Your Majeſty's Reign as eaſy and glorious to Your ſelf, as it is happy and advantagious to Your People.

His MAJESTY's moſt Gracious Anſwer.

My LORDS,

I Thank you for this very Dutiful and Affectionate Addreſs, which cannot fail of having a good Effect both at Home and Abroad. The Welfare and Happineſs of My People ſhall always take Place with Me of all other Conſiderations; and you may be aſſured that the Confidence you put in Me, ſhall not be made Uſe of to any other Purpoſes, but for the Safety, Intereſt, and Honour of the Nation.

FINIS.

uce th
anage
us, t
ur Ma
ace.
ne Pre
withou
ore us
preſen

ſecute
ng gra
the In
Naval
onour
try, is
ngneſs
to the
eſs of
s well

ve of
k Bu
ne of
Ma
ler to
as In
ed at
ſerve.
rts of
Zeal
which
e are
, ad
a juſt
, but
oting
rious

er.

t fail
Hap
erati
not be
ur of

3